

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 199601
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:HCOLLUMS:AM
APPROVED BY C:MNIMETZ
EUR:GSVEST
EUR/SE:RCEWING
S/S-O:RCASTRODALE

-----129730 081339Z /47

O P 081321Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 199601

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, MASS, MARR, TU, US

SUBJ: NIMETZ-ELEKDAG MEETING, AUG. 7: TURKISH ARMS
EMBARGO

1. TURKISH MFA SEC GEN ELEKDAG, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR
ESENBEL, CALLED ON DEPT COUNSELOR NIMETZ AUGUST 7 TO DIS-
CUSS CONGRESSIONAL ACTION LIFTING TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO.
ALSO PRESENT AT MEETING WERE EUR ASST SEC VEST AND DEPT OFFS
FROM EUR/SE.

2. ELEKDAG STRESSED THAT RECENT SENATE AND HOUSE ACTIONS
HAD LED TO CONFUSION IN TURKISH PUBLIC OPINION WHETHER IN
FACT EMBARGO WOULD BE LIFTED, MERELY LIFTED CONDITIONALLY,
OR WORSE STILL, ONLY SUSPENDED. THE IMPRESSION WAS WIDE-
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SPREAD THAT CONGRESS WISHED TO KEEP OPEN THE OPTION OF RE-
IMPOSING THE EMBARGO AT SOME LATER DATE IF TURKEY DOES NOT
RPT NOT MEET THE CONDITIONS SET BY CONGRESS. OPPOSITION
LEADER DEMIREL HAS DECLARED PUBLICLY THAT NOTHING HAS
CHANGED. ACCORDINGLY, PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT FACES A DELICATE
POLITICAL SITUATION AND CANNOT REFUTE OPPOSITION CHARGES
UNLESS SECTION 620(X) OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT WAS

CLEARLY REPEALED. ELEKDAG SAID THE GOT WAS PREPARED TO BE REASONABLE AND FLEXIBLE ON CYPRUS AND TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH WOULD BE UNDERSTANDING. HOWEVER, IT WAS

MOST IMPORTANT THAT FINAL VERSION OF THE BILL EMERGING FROM THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE NOT RPT NOT CONTAIN POINTS WHICH COULD BE EXPLOITED BY THE GREEK CYPRIOTS TO PREVENT RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS.

3. ELEKDAG THEN RECOUNTED TO NIMETZ SOME TURKISH SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FINAL BILL, BASED ON THE SENATE VERSION, BUT BORROWING LANGUAGE FROM THE HOUSE VERSION AS WELL. HE STRESSED THAT THE GOT PLACED HIGHEST IMPORTANCE ON GETTING CONFEREES TO ADOPT SENATE LANGUAGE REPEALING 620(X), AS OPPOSED TO HOUSE LANGUAGE CALLING FOR PRIOR PRESIDENTIAL CERTIFICATION. IF 620(X) REMAINS ON THE BOOKS, HE SAID, THE TURKISH PUBLIC WOULD HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE EMBARGO HAD SIMPLY BEEN SUSPENDED, NOT RPT NOT LIFTED, WITH THE CLEAR THREAT IT COULD BE REIMPOSED AT A LATER DATE. MOREOVER, ELEKDAG STRESSED THAT THE LANGUAGE ADOPTED SHOULD ENCOURAGE THE GREEK CYPRIOTS TO RESUME THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS PROMPTLY, NOT RPT NOT PROVIDE THEM WITH AN EXCUSE TO FORESTALL TALKS. IN THIS REGARD, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE LANGUAGE BE ADDRESSED TO GREECE, CYPRUS AND TURKEY, AS IN THE SENATE VERSION. ELEKDAG ADDED THAT GENERAL REFERENCES TO U.N. RESOLUTIONS ON CYPRUS, SUCH AS CONFIDENTIAL

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IN THE HOUSE VERSION, WERE NOT RPT NOT HELPFUL, ALTHOUGH REFERENCES TO U.N. PROCEDURES AND EFFORTS BY SYG WALDHEIM WERE ACCEPTABLE. ALSO, THE GOT FEELS THAT LANGUAGE RE TROOP WITHDRAWALS SHOULD NOT RPT NOT BE ADDRESSED ONLY TO THE TURKS, SINCE THE GREEKS ALLEGEDLY HAVE 15,000-20,000 TROOPS ON THE ISLAND "IN DISGUISE."

4. IN RESPONSE, NIMETZ CONFIRMED CONFERENCE COMMITTEE WOULD BEGIN TAKING UP SECURITY ASSISTANCE BILL THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, BUT IT IS NOT RPT NOT YET CLEAR WHEN SECTION DEALING WITH TURKEY WOULD COME UP. HE POINTED OUT THAT MATTER IS NOW LARGELY OUT OF DEPT'S HANDS, SINCE IT IS UP TO CONFEREES TO RECONCILE DIFFERENCES IN HOUSE AND SENATE LANGUAGE. HOWEVER, WE CONCURRED WITH GOT VIEW THAT SENATE VERSION AS WHOLE IS PREFERABLE AND WOULD DO WHATEVER WE COULD TO ENCOURAGE MOST FAVORABLE OUTCOME POSSIBLE. FROM TACTICAL STANDPOINT, NIMETZ POINTED OUT POTENTIAL PROBLEMS OF TRYING TO REWRITE BILL EXTENSIVELY IN CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SINCE OTHER SIDE COULD TRY FOR EXTENSIVE REVISIONS AS WELL, WHICH COULD IN TURN LEAD TO ANOTHER CONTENTIOUS VOTE IN EITHER HOUSE OR SENATE. WE WANTED TO AVOID SUCH A SITUATION. NIMETZ ASKED WHAT WERE PARTICULAR TURKISH

PRIORITIES RE VARIOUS POSSIBLE SUGGESTED CHANGES.

5. ESENBEL REPLIED THAT THE SENATE LANGUAGE REPEALING SECTION 620(X) WAS TOP PRIORITY. ELEKDAG ADDED THAT

WHATEVER COMES OUT OF CONFERENCE SHOULD ENCOURAGE, RATHER THAN HINDER CYPRUS SOLUTION. HE STRESSED THE URGENCY TO PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT OF MOVING PROMPTLY TO RESTORE U.S.-TURKEY BILATERAL RELATIONS.

6. IN CLOSING, NIMETZ NOTED THAT PRESIDENT HAD MADE STRONG POLITICAL COMMITMENT TO SEEK REVITALIZED US-TURKISH RELATIONS. ADMINISTRATION PREFERS SENATE LANGUAGE REPEALING SECTION 620(X), BUT WE MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT
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CONGRESSIONAL PRACTICES. WE WILL WORK WITH CONFEREES TO GET BEST RESULT POSSIBLE. IN RESPONSE ELEKDAG QUESTION RE LIKELY CONFERENCE TIME SCHEDULE, NIMETZ SAID WE HOPED THAT WORK WOULD BE COMPLETED BY AUGUST 18 RECESS DATE BUT WERE NOT CERTAIN THIS COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED. CHRISTOPHER

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011
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APPROVED BY PM/ISO:GTCHURCHILL
S/S-O:RSNIDER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 199601

EXDIS, MILITARY ADDEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 199601 SENT ACTION ANKARA INFO
ATHENS AND NICOSIA AUG 08.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 199601

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UNQUOTE VANCE

ORIG DIST: SS-25/ISO,SSO,INRE,NSCE,DODE,CIAE,

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY: EUR/RPM:JAFROEBE, JR

APPROVED BY: EUR/RPM:CHTHOMAS

S/S-O:TMARTIN

EUR:MPARRIS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USMISSION USNATO 0000

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 199601

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 199601 SENT INFO USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD
10 AUG 78

QUOTE

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UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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From: STATE
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Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
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Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Release Event: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
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Subject: NIMETZ-ELEKDAG MEETING, AUG. 7: TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO
TAGS: PEPR, MASS, MARR, TU, US, (ELEKDAG, SUKRU), (NIMETZ, MATTHEW)
To: ANKARA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d7190467-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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